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The Tahrik-i-Jadid

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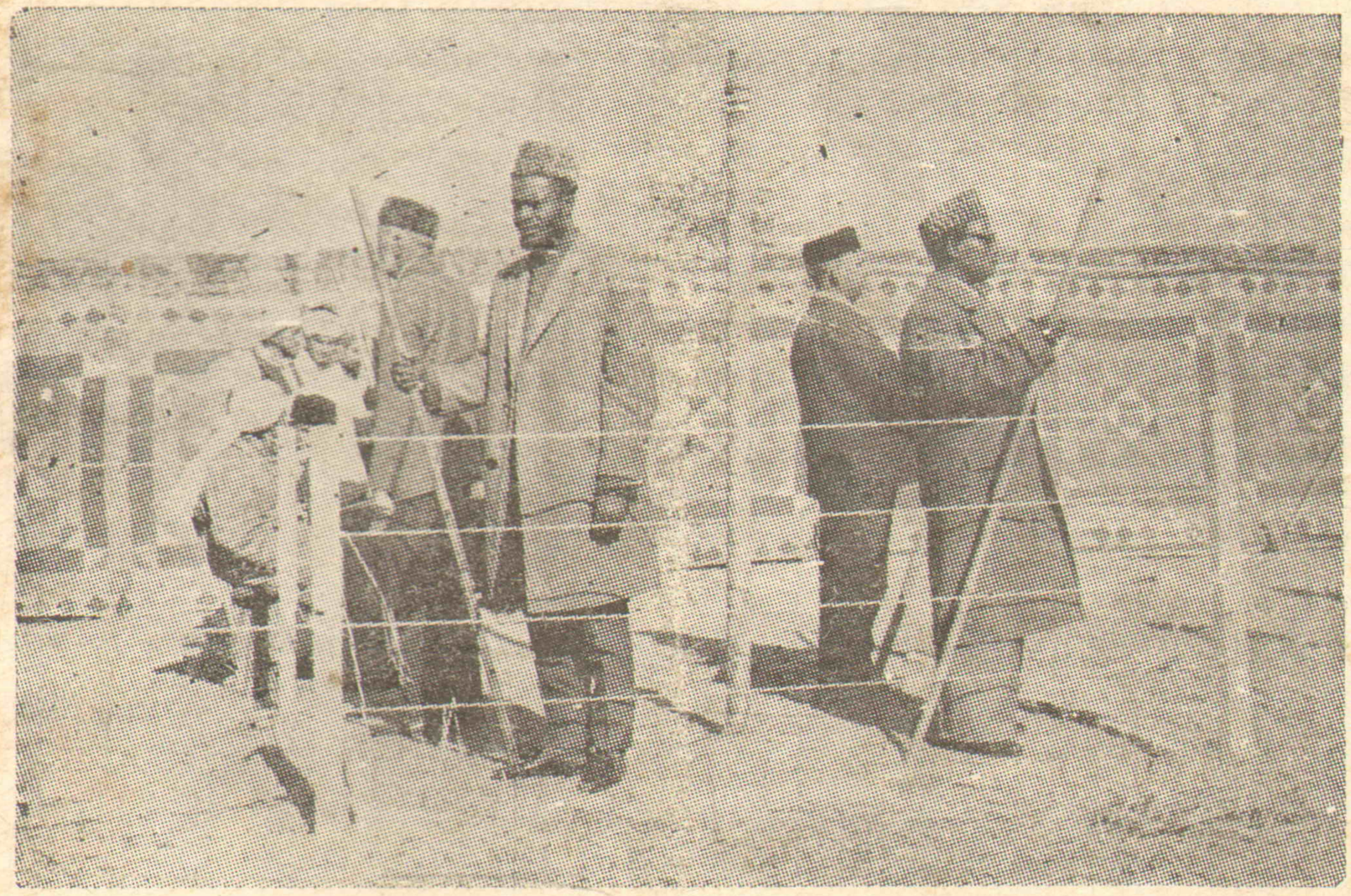
Editor : Naseem Saifi

ZulQa'da 1388——Tabligh 1348——February 1969

ANNUAL GATHERING AT QADIAN

Two Ghanaian Ahmadis are seen guarding the Ahmadiyya Flag which is kept flying at this spot during the Annual Gathering.



غانا کے دو احمدی دوست گذشتہ جلسہ سالانہ پر قادیان میں
لوائے احمدیت کی حفاظت کر رہے ہیں

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

THE

TAHRIK-I-JADID

MONTHLY

JOURNAL OF THE

TAHRIK-I-JADID ANJUMAN AHMADIYYA (PAKISTAN)

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Sayings of the Promised Messiah

How to have concentration in Prayer

I find that now-a-days people's Formal Prayer consists of nothing but a few physical movements. They do not have even as much fervour and pleasure in their Formal Prayer as they seem to have in the supplications they make, with raised hands, after the end of the Formal Prayer. Would that they made their supplications in the very course of the Formal Prayer ! In that case, they might have had the concentration of mind and also bliss in Prayer. So, for the time being, I command you not to supplicate at all. immediately after the Formal Prayer. Try to have the desired bliss and concentration in the very course of the prescribed Formal Prayer, by offering all your supplications during the Formal Prayer itself. I do not mean thereby that it is forbidden to supplicate immediately after the Formal Prayer. What I mean is that till the time you find sufficient concentration in the Formal Prayer, refrain from making supplication immediately after the Prayer, so that, you may not be deprived of the bliss of Prayer. Of course, when you have attained the desired concentration in Formal Prayer, there is no harm in offering suplications immediately after the Formal Prayer. So, it is better that you offer your supplications in your own language in the very course of the Formal Prayer. The ardour and fervour that is produced in supplications made in one's own language can never be produced in supplications made in any other language. During the Formal Prayer, in addition to offering Quranic and prescribed supplications, present your needs before God in the form of supplication in your own tongue, so that you may gradually have bliss and pleasure in your Prayer.

The best supplication is to supplicate to win the pleasure of God and to have deliverance from sin because sin hardens the heart and makes man worshipper of the world. So we should supplicate to God that He may remove our sins that harden the heart, and that He may show us the path of His Pleasure.

(*Malfuzat*, Vol. VII, PP. 38, 39)

Supplications All Along

Digitized by Khilafat Library Rabwah

Following is a gist of the opening address of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih at 77th Annual Jalsa at Rabwah.

(Delivered on December 26, 1968)

Having recited the Opening Chapter of the Holy Quran, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III greeted the audience saying, "Assalamo Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi wa barakatohu" (Peace and blessing of Allah be upon you all). He, then, spoke briefly of his illness, and requested all brothers and sisters to pray for his health, and for his ability to discharge all his responsibilities, particularly, those heavy ones that devolved on him during the days of the Conference.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih then said :

"First of all, I should like to call the attention of my brothers to the responsibilities that fall on them during these Blessed Days of the Conference. This Conference is no fair or worldly gathering. We have assembled here not to gain any earthly end; nor any earthly fear or trouble has been able to debar us from coming here. We have come here undertaking all sorts of physical troubles and some mental worries, too, simply to win the Pleasure of Allah—hoping that Allah will enable us to offer some supplication ourselves, or He will accept the supplication of others in our favour, as a result of which our weaknesses will be removed through His Grace, and He will produce the best possible result of our humble efforts and grant us the best reward, too. Every moment of these days, in particular, and of course, of our whole life, in general, is very precious. By "life" here I mean the life of a believer who entertains faith in his Lord, and firmly believes that every breath that he takes Here sincerely for the sake of God, will entitle him to Eternal Life in the Here-after.

So, let not these precious moments be wasted; see that every moment wins you the Pleasure of God, and not a single moment be snatched away by Satan.

Be devoted to supplication all along these days. Foster mutual love and affection, and the spirit of brotherhood. Meet one another, try to know one another's condition, and, above all, try to meet your Lord and tell Him of your needs and difficulties. Bowing humbly before Him, saying, "We are extremely weak, but Thou hast entrusted to us the great responsibility of making Islam predominant on earth. When we look to our own strength, power, capacities, means and resources, we are convinced that we shall not be able to achieve our objective. But, when, inspite of all our weaknesses and shortcomings, we look to Thy Good Tidings, and observe Thy Might and Power manifested in our favour, we are convinced that, despite our nonentity Thou from Whom every thing came into existence, will certainly make us successful So we solicit success from Thee. Grant us capacity to do such deeds as will please Thee, and enable us to entertain such thoughts, devise such plans and implement the plans, in such a way as will be pleasing to Thee. Make us successful in the work of implanting, in people's hearts, faith in Thy Unity, and of inspiring their hearts with the love of the Holy Prophet, Mohammad, peace and blessings of Allah be on him.

We have come here to listen to the Word of God and His Guidance. We have assembled here to listen to the sweet words of Mohammad, the possessor of all excellences and of sweet tongue. too, peace and blessings of Allah be on him. So attend every function in which his sweet words are discussed, and waste not your time in idle or undesirable talks. Spend your time in listening to the Word of God and His Prophet, and continuously pray to God that He may grant understanding of those words, and also ability to act upon them, and further that He may, through His Grace, produce such result there-of as will delight us. Pray also that He, too, be pleased to see that we have become His servants, and not of Satan's.

I shall now recite aloud some prayers, which are virtually from the Holy Quran; you may say "Ameen" along with me. Listen to these prayers with deep attention, and keep bowing before God, accordingly. After these Quranic prayers, we shall make a collective supplication to God, and with it the conference shall be opened—the Conferenee which we have attended purely to win the pleasure of God, and which is held simply for His sake. May the Blessings, Grace and Mercy of Allah shower on us, always and at every moment, during these days, in particular; may His Blessings, Grace and Mercy shower on us, and so profusely, that our brain fail to visualize or measure their extent.

O our Lord, Thou art Holy, above all imperfections. The creation of the Universe is not in vain or without a purpose.

Our Lord, save our lives from being purposeless. Take us into Thy protection against the fire of Thy wrath. Our Lord, one caller called us in Thy Name, we accepted him to win Thy pleasure, and responded to his Call for the glorification and exaltation of Thy Name. Thou alone knowest how far we have been able to fulfil this Covenant of our Invitiation. We are embodiments of weaknesses, listen to our humble applications, and forgive us our faults, and remove from us our evils, and admit us into the Group of those who are, in Thy sight, righteous and holy.

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May we not be disgraced in Thy Sight when the Day of Judgment comes! May, on that Dav, those who have comprehension, understand that it is only those who endure troubles and undergo hardships in Thy Cause to humiliate and destroy whom the world leaves no stone unturned—win Thy Love and are admitted among Thy Honoured Servants! Who strove to forego our sensual desires, the attractions of our environments and the embellishments of the world. We were oppressed, disgraced, persecuted, beaten and deprived of our properties, in Thy Cause. We courted destruction to intensify the fire of Love enkindled in our hearts for Thee. But this is our own judgment, may be, our judgment is wrong. We are trembling out of fear of Thee, our hearts are terriffied of Thy Majesty; Thy majesty and Greatness has shaken the very foundation of our existence. O Our Lord! our weakness, indolence, negligence, short-coming faults and sins have suppressed our virtues. Forgive us, forgive us, O Forgiving Lord, wrap us up in the shroud of Thy Forgiveness. Our hands have failed to bring flowers of virtue and garlands of good deeds to be placed at Tny Feet. We prostrate ourselves empty-handed at Thy Feet and entreat Thy Mercy. O Gracious Lord, fill these empty hands with Thy Mercy. May Thy Glory and the glory of Mohammad shine in the world, and illumine it! Catch hold of our empty hands with Thy Hand of Power. May Thy Majesty and Mohammad's greatness be manifested in the world! Let the haughty and proud enemies of Islam and Mohammad be

disgraced and ashamed.

O Our Lord, do not take us to task on account of our mistakes. Overlook our faults. We are Thy humble and weak servants, but, after, all, we are Thy Servants.

O Our Lord, may we not break our covenants with Thee, and be deprived of doing rewarding deeds, and be punished by Thee for breach of promise! O our Beloved. May we ever be granted capacity to observe our Covenant, and may we ever win Thy Pleasure, and may not the Chain of Divine Favour, conferred on Islam, be ever cut off!

O Lord, save us from Thy Wrath. We do not have the strength to stand it. Thy grip is severe, it crushes and destroys the thing it seizes. We are guilty of repeated commissions and omissions. Hide all our weaknesses in the shroud of Thy Mercy. Shower Thy Mercy always upon us. Thou art our Beloved Lord, we have caught hold of the hem of Thy Garment, Shake us not off Thy Garment. Accept our supplications, and come to our help against the ungrateful rejectors of Islam, and protect us against their mischief. O our Lord, grant us strength and power to endure all hardships and trials that may befall us in Thy Cause; grant us steadfastness in hard hips.

Continued from Page 5

so that we can be justified to take this period as the day of Eid.

He also referred to the advent of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be upon him, and said that till the end of the days, the Muslim Nation was justified to count it as a day of Eid but all of us should prepare ourselves for trials and tribulations. This covenant of Eid has been renewed through the advent of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, who is an illustrious son of the Holy Prophet, peace be on him.

RABWAH DIARY

Digitized by Khilafat Library Rabwah

Departure

Maulvi Abdul Basit Shahid, left Rabwah for Karachi enroute Tanzania on the 23rd of January. He was seen off by a large number of people at the railway station where he was heavily garlanded. All those present shook hands with him and embraced him. A silent prayer was offered for his success in the field of the propagation of Islam. While departing he requested all the friends to continue praying for him that his stay abroad may be a source of blessing for the whole community.

Majlis-i-Mushawarat

The next Majlis-i-Mushawarat will, Insha Allah, be held on the 28th, 29th and 30th of March 1969. The Amirs of the various Districts of Pakistan are requested to send the names of the representatives of their Jamaats to the Private Secretary to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III, at their earliest. The proposals should reach the Headquarters not later than the 28th of February.

Ahmadiyya Dispensaries

Qualified Doctors (M.B.,B.S) who wish to serve the Ahmadiyya Jamaats in foreign countries should please forward their applications to the Vakil-ut-Tabshir, Rabwah. They are required to open Dispensaries in various parts of Africa. Further details will be supplied on request.

Read

TAHRIK-i-JADID

Regularly

Tahrik-i-Jadid

Our 77th Annual Jalsa at Rabwah

Digitized by Khilafat Library Rabwah

The 77th Annual Jalsa of the Ahmadiyya Community was, with the grace of God, held at Rabwah, the International Headquarters of the Community, on the 26-28th of December 1968. Almost a hundred thousand people attended the Gathering; they had arrived not only from various parts of Pakistan, but from other countries also, three of them being European ladies and two Ghanaians. The Ghanaians later on attended the Annual Gathering at Qadian also.

In his opening speech Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III invoked the blessings of God on all those who had come to attend the Jalsa, as well as those who had been left behind for one or the other unavoidable reason. He invited the attention of the audience to the fact that the Jalsa was not a worldly gathering but it had a spiritual significance and those who had come for it had only one aim before them - attainment of the pleasure of God. They had borne the hardships of travelling and cold for the sake of God and God would reward them abundantly. He further remarked that although every moment of the life of a Believer is very precious and care must be taken to spend it in the best possible way but the moments when there is gathering of large numbers of Believers are extraordinarily precious and none of them should be allowed to go waste. Remembrance of God should become a speciality of such moments.

In the end he prayed to God that He may remove our shortcomings and let us lead virtuous lives. He also prayed that the beauty of God and His Holy Prophet may shine brightly all over the world and enemies of Islam and of Mohammad may be defeated and humiliated.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih delivered two more speeches, one on the second day of the Jalsa and another on the last day.

On the second day-Friday-Hazrat Khalifatul Masih in his sermon dialated on verse 90 of Sura An-Nahl which says "We have revealed this Book with full explanation of all the essential matters so that people may get guidance from it and it may become a source of blessing for them; also that it may give good news to those who will obev its commandments". Hazrat Khalifatul Masih remarked that no other book but the Holy Quran opened up all the doors to guidance and it has made the paths of righteousness and virtue so bright that it has become very easy for the people to distinguish them from the paths of sin and evil. The Holy Quran also explains how one may never go wrong.

In his second day speech Hazrat Khalifatul Masih enumerated a number of gracious acts of God and the way He had shown mercy to the Jamaat and granted it advancement in almost all the phases of life. In the very beginning of his speech, he remarked that the advent of every prophet was like the day of Eid for He sends His succour and vouchsafes success to the followers of the prophet who are justifiably exhilerated by it and genuinely believe that it is the day of Eid for them.

But, he said it should not be lost sight of that Eid comes after sacrifices. We are therefore expected to make all the necessary sacrifices

(*Continued on Page 4*

First Ahmadiyya Hospital Abroad

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On the 28th of December 1968, the foundation stone of the first AHMADIYYA HOSPITAL was laid at Kano, Nigeria. The Emir of Kano who performed this ceremony said,

Honourable Commissioners, Councillors, Distinguished Guests, The Amir, Incharge of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat in Nigeria !

Today we are here to witness the opening of another chapter in the way of providing the much needed medical facilities for our people. Nigeria is a country where all the people are free to practise any kind of religion they believe in peace.

There is always respect and understanding between the followers of all religions, and I am sure this will continue all the time in this country.

For years we have the Christian Missionaries here doing great work in the field of education and medicine. In their medical institutions all are treated without any discrimination of religion. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to these Christian missionaries. Now that we have an Islamic Mission opening an institution like this makes us very happy and I am sure like the other missionaries when this Clinic is finished its doors will be opened to all the people no matter what their religion may be. The building of a Clinic especially at a time like this will go a long way to supplement the limited medical facilities we have for evergrowing population of this ancient city of ours.

On behalf of the Kano people and myself I would like to express my deepest appreciation for this fine initiative taken by this Mission in bringing about this project. Our gratitude goes to those who have contributed financially or otherwise and also to those who are prepared to offer their services in running this Clinic when it is completed.

In conclusion, I pray the Almighty Allah to spare our lives so that we might witness the completion and opening of this Clinic.

Maulvi F. I. Anwari welcomed the guests with the following words :

Your Highness, Sir,

Assalamo Alaikum wa rahmatullah wa barakatohu !

I take this opportunity to welcome Your Highness on behalf of the entire Ahmadiyya Jamaat in Nigeria.

Ahmadiyya Jamaat is a body of Muslims who are working all over the world to spread Islam. It was founded in 1889 by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian (India), who on the basis of heavenly revelations claimed to be the Reformer of this dark Age. For the last eighty years the Jamaat is serving the cause of Islam in all the continents. It has translated the Holy Quran in different languages like English, Dutch, German, Swahili, Esperanto and French., and has produced huge literature in defence of Islam. It has built 280 Mosques and established over sixty Centres for preaching Islam in Europe. America, Africa and Indonesia. Six Mosques in Europe and three in America are among those which have been built in the heart of Christian countries and by virtue of which thousands of Europeans and Americans have embraced Islam. In Denmark alone,* over one hundred Danish and Swedish

Muslims pray five times daily in the only Mosque built in their country last year.

In West Africa, we have established Muslim Centres in Ghana Nigeria, Sierra Leon, Liberia Togoland, Ivory Coast and Gambia which with the help of Allah and efforts of Pakistani scholars devoted for preaching Islam are contributing their efforts in uplifting moral, educational and spiritual standard of the Muslims for the last forty years. In Nigeria, apart from serving the country in religious and services fields, we started our medical academic in1961. Accordingly two clinics, one in Lag os headed by Lt. Col. Dr. M. Y. Shah, and the other in Kano, with Dr. Ziauddin, M.B.,B.S., as the Incharge, are running successfully and to the great satisfaction of the public both of the South and the North.

It is our immence pleasure now to extend our Clinic in Kano to a building which will be equipped with more modern equipments and increased medical facilities like X-Rays, clinical laboratory, electro cardiograme, and Physyiotherapy, etc. The whole project is to be complete within next few months, Insha-Allah. Later on a maternity section will also be added to the Clinic in the course of next few years.

It is worthy to mention, Your Highness, that the Jamaat has no financial support from any Government. It depends entirely upon the voluntary contributions and sacrifices of its individual members, both male and famale, in Pakistan and abroad. The three of the six European Mosques, for instance, are built solely by the financial sacrifices of our Ahmadiyya women.

Among the future plans about Nigeria is the translation of the Holy Quran into Hausa and opening of a secondary school in Kano.

We are immensely grateful to Your Highness for accepting to lay the Foundation Stone of this Clinic which, when complete, will be one of the most modern clinics in the North, Insha-Allah.

February, 1969.

WORLD PEACE

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Maulvi F. I, Anwari, Amir & Missionary Incharge of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat, Nigeria, recently wrote an article on "Islam and World Peace" which was published in the New Nigerian (6 - 9 - 1968).

The article was also broadcast from the studios of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation under the title "Islamic Brotherhood".

In this article Maulvi Anwari said, among other things :—

Not only in the daily prayers but even in the detailed teachings of Islam we find instructions which ensure a common relationship among the individuals. None of us, says the Prophet of God upon whom may be the peace and blessings of God, can be a true believer unless he regards every other person as his own brother, wishing for him all what he wishes for himself and respecting him as he respects himself.

You insult a person but do not wish to be insulted, You injure a person but do not like to be injured. You mock at a person but do not want to be mocked at. If you are a true believer you will never insult others nor injure anybody, nor even mock at your fellow beings because you don't like to be so treated by others. What an impressive injunction for the establishment of peace and harmony in the society. For any wrong you do or inclined to do, put yourself on the stake and see whether you would like to have the same done to you. Certainly not! Then never do wrong to anyone or else you are not a true believer in the sight of God.

Ahmadiyya Jamaat in Ghana

Addressing the 44th Annual Conference of the Ahmadiyya Movement held at Saltpond this month, (January 1969) Commissioners of State had the following remarks to make about the Movement.

"The Ahmadiyya Movement is a revival of Islam. It also carries a dynamism which has not been felt for a long time. Ahmadis can be said to be the torch-bearers of the teachings brought by the Holy Prophet of Islam (peace be on him). Let Muslims, through their efforts, show that a renaissance has taken place in Islam, and let this carry with it the dynamism of the Ahmadiyya Movement. May the Ahmadiyya Movement grow from strength to strength every year."

(Mr. Issifu Ali, Commissioner for Works and Housing, and Member of the Constituent Assembly)

"Islam was introduced to us through Northern Ghana, and it was confined to that area. But when the Ahmadiyya Movement came, it tried to propagate it all over Ghana, and the number of men won for Islam is tremendous. Now, here we are, seeing Muslims from all over Ghana In fact the Ahmadiyya Movement is trying to let all these people live in peace and harmony.

We therefore pray for God's guidance for the Ahmadiyya Movement to continue up to eternity.

Let the Mission go to all parts of the country. Let us admit that what Ahmadiyyat has done in the field of Islamic propagation is remarkable."

(Mr. Ibrahim Mahama, Commissioner for Information)

"I wish to draw attention to your position in Ghana. I think we must acknowledge, if we did not know before, tnat the Ahmadiyya Movement has an important place in Ghana. Your methods are peaceful and you are non-violent. That is what makes your Movement important to the country.

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In this one place of Saltpond, we have brothers from all parts of Ghana — from Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Accra-Tema, Northern and Upper Regions.....I want you to know that you are doing a great work for Ghana.....

This is the 44th Annual Conference of the Ahmadiyya Movement, in Ghana. I am sure there will be many more in the future. This one has been successful, but I hope the future ones will be more successful."

(Mr. Albert Adomako, Commissioner for Agriculture).

Mr. Bashir Kwaw Swanzy, formerly Mr. Barthelomew Kwaw Swanzy, Attorney General and Minister of Justice in the Former regime, addressing the Annual Conference of the Ahmadiyya Movement held here, told over six thousand Muslims and non-Muslims the amazing story of his conversion to Islam, and said that his conversion is a proof to him of the

Quranic message "There is no soul but has a protector over it."

Digitized by Khilafat Library Rabwah

He said he was born into a Christian family and entered a Roman Cathloic Seminary at the age of thirteen years, determined and seriously preparing to become a priest. But the Bible, he said, failed to appeal to him as a revealed word of God, and so he abandoned the idea of becoming a priest.

He told the unbelieving crowd that it was barely two years ago that he seriously studied the Quran, and was amazed when within a fortnight of Quranic discussions with a Muslim scholar, a complete change of attitude seemed to have come over him.

"To the surprise of my friends" he added solemnly, "I decided to accept Islam ; I have become a Muslim."

Recounting his experiences as a Muslim, Mr. Bashir Kwaw Swanzy said Islam is the height of learning, and cannot be taught or imparted to man except by God Himself.

He reminded Muslims that secularism is the negation of religion as Muslims understand it and called on them to guard against it.

He said he had come to believe that the greatest weapon a Muslim can wield against deviationism and misleading innovations is the remembrance of God.

Fulfilment of a Prophecy.

At a time when the Holy Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement was not known even by the few inhabitants of his village, God revealed to him : "I shall cause thy Message, to spread to all corners of the globe." Witness was borne to the literal fulfilment of this prophecy when at the 44th Annual Conference of the Ahmadiyya Movement held at Saltpond, delegates heard this same prophecy in twenty-two different languages, including Arabic, Urdu, Latin, French, English, German, Yoruba, and several Ghanaian languages.

Tolon-na Advises Muslims

The Paramount Chief of Tolon, Alhaj Bakubu Tali, advised Muslims all over the world to eschew malice and falsehood, and prove by word and deed that they have really submitted to the Will of God and have good will toward mankind. The Paramount Chief was addressing the 44th Annual Conference of the Ahmadiyya Movement at Saltpond. He said Islam poses several questions to us individually and collectively and called on Muslims to always consider how effective they are as Muslims at home, in towns and villages, and at their various vocations.

Recalling that it was the second occasion of being privileged to witness the Annual Conference of the Ahmadiyya Movement, he remarked that whatever he had seen at the Conference had been very inspiring and wished the Movement a great success.

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NOTES & COMMENTS

Nusrat Jehan Mosque

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Hazrat Sayeda Maryam Siddiqa, the President of the Lajna Imaullah (Central) has announced that the funds required for the building of the Nusrat Jehan Mosque, Copenhagen, have now been subscribed and no further promises are needed. However the amounts that have been collected so far, in various parts of the world, should now be immediately forwarded to the Head Office.

It will be of general interest to note that on the occasion of the last Jalsa Salana (December 1968), the Lajna Imaullah decided to collect five hundred thousand rupees (more than fortyfive thousand pounds sterling) for a special purpose. A part of this money, is expected to be presented to Hazrat Khalifatul Masih to be used for the publication of a translation of the Holy Quran in any one of the European languages.

Prayer - A luxury

The Newsweek (U.S.A.) says in its column of Religion (issue dated 30-12-68) :

> "Not all religions have creeds or dogmas, prelates or priests, sacraments, sermons or even churches. But all religions have prayer. And, until very recently it could be assumed that all religious people pray. Yet the emphasis on action, on group liturgies and on talk about God rather than to Him seems to have made prayer obsolete. "In the time of frenetic Christian activity, when everybody is busy solving the problems of the world" says Yale theologian Jaroslav Pelikan, "prayer must seem to be, at the least, a luxury item"

Another School

A new NC 20.000 secondary school, built by the people through communal labour and voluntary contributions has been opened at Pramso in the Amasie-Kwabre district, Ashanti.

Nana Gyampotoa Ababio, the Pramsohene, cut the tape to declare open the new Government approved school, known as the Pramso Ahmadiyya Secondary School. The Ahmadiyya Mission is providing funds and staff for the school.

Speaking at the opening ceremony. Maulvi G. N. Malik, Regional Manager of the Ahmadiyya Mission Educational Unit, announced that work on the next phase of the project, estimated to cost NC 160,000, including more classrooms and a science block, would start early next year.

Maulvi Malik appealed to Muslims in the country to realise the need to give their children higher education, for the Islamic religion "is not limited to the reading of the Holy Quran alone".

"It is the failure of Muslims to give their children better education", he pointed out, "which has been the cause of other people looking mean on the Muslims."

Maulvi Malik stressed that the Ahmadiyya Mission would do all it could to elevate the educational standards in the country, and revealed that the mission would soon award scholarships tenable at Islamic universities as part of the mission's plans.

Nana Gyampotoa Ababio announced

that the people were paying NC10.00 a man and NC5.00 a woman towards the construction of the new secondary school.

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Mr. Ismail B. K. Addo, Senior English Master of the Kumasi Ahmadiyya Secondary School, who also spoke pointed out that classroom education alone did not make a scholar, adding that Ghana needed patriotic men who would be selfless and devoted to the cause of reshaping the country.

Mr. Ibrahim Akyeampong, a timber merchant, urged the people to continue to take active interest in self-help projects to improve their living conditions.

Polygamy

Our Missionaries are always out to defend the teachings of Islam and they do all they can to explain to all and sundry how best Islam can be practised to the advantage and welfare of everyone.

Mr. Abdul Wahab is a Ghanaian who had his Missionary training at Rabwah. He is now working in his own homeland as a Missionary of Islam. Below we reproduce a letter from him originally published in the "Sunday Mirror" (Ghana) of 19th January, 1969. We wish more grease to his elbows. Editor.

Dear Sir, those men and women who attack polygamy and condemn it as unfair and a thing of the past are entitled to their opinion. I take it that men who attack the practice do not find themselves "gallivanting all over the place" looking for extra marital relations, and that the women who appear to be averse to it do not go about "snatching other women's husbands!"

That certain women choose, on their own free will, to marry men who have one or more wives gives the lie to those who claim that polygamy is unfair to women. The truth of the matter is, although superficially, polygamy may appear to be unjust and unfair to women, in certain circumstances, it is not only fair but even imperative for their own survival and happiness.

Take the case of the country which has lost a great percentage of its male population in a war, with the resutlt that men are by far outnumbered by women.

If each man is to take only one wife, what will become of the rest of the women? Are they to be properly married to men who already have one or more wives or left unmarried thereby become menace to society?

Let us also consider the case of the woman who, after marriage, is afflicted with a chronic disease that renders her incapable of effectively discharging her duty as a wife.

Will such a woman submit to an unwilling divorce, or prefer to allow her husband to take a second wife and retain her in addition to the second?

What of the divorced women or the widow who would not be married by anybody but one who already has one or more wives? These are but a few examples, but nevertheless they show that there can be circumstances in which life can become really bitter and unbearable if polygamy is not allowed.

It is for this and similar reasons that women would be well advised to think twice before they clamour for legislation to ban polygamy.

Muslim Holidays

Digitized by Khilafat Library Rabwah

Ghana Government does not observe Idul Fitr and Idul Azhiya as Public Holidays. Our Community has been pressing this genuine demand of the Muslims and now the time seems to have arrived when this right of the Muslims will be given to them. A report of the "Daily Graphic" to this effect is reproduced below :

Government is considering plans to declare as public holidays in Ghana two annual Muslim festivals— the Idel Fitr and the Idel Kabir (Greater Beiram).

The Idel Fitr marks the end of the annual 30-day Ramadan fasting of Muslims, while the Idel Kabir is observed during the period of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca.

This was announced at Saltpond yesterday by the Commissioner for Works and Housing Mr. Issifu Ali, during the opening of a three-day conference of the Ahmadiyya Movement.

The Commissioner also called for the immediate establishment of a Ghana Muslim Council in the country.

This, he pointed out, would help handle affairs and problems of Muslims more effectively and expeditiously.

He said further that the council would also provide a channel for Muslims in Ghana through which they could present their problems to the Government in a more unified form.

Mr. Ibrahim Mahama, Commissioner for Information, who was chairman of the function, said that the success of the second proposal depends greatly on men and women who would handle the affairs of the country.

"It is up to Ghanaians therefore to entrust the care of this country to people who are trust-worthy".

In an opening address. Alhaj Maulvi A.U. Kaleem. Ameer and Missionary incharge of the movement in Ghaua, said Ghanaians live in an age in which falsehood and deceit obtained a sanctity in political and social affairs.

BRIEF NEWS

Mr. Arshad Hussain, Foreign Minister of Pakistan has reiterated the stand of Pakistan on Kashmir. He was addressing the newsmen at Lahore while leaving for Rawalpindi.

The Foreign Minister said that Pakistan would continue fighting for the cause of Kashmiris which as everybody knows is the just cause. He further remarked that in the near future Pakistan would take this cause to Security Council.

The Indian Government has established a separate district in the State of Kerala in order to secure the rights of the Muslims and also to rid them of the manance of Jan Sanghis. The new district is named Malapur. Those who are bent upon destroying the culture of the Muslims in Kerala and want to curb them in all the spheres of life are fighting tooth and nail to get the new district scrapped.

The chief Minister of the State has said that it is anti-Muslims who are opposing the new measure of his Government.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India has issued a statement that Israel had every right to exist and the Arab States should now give "due recognition" to this nation. She said that this was the only solution to the Arab-Israel problem.